

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERN 03424 180825Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12
TRSE-00 OIC-02 BIB-01 HA-05 OES-09 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 /092 W
-----067882 180837Z /21/44

O R 171630Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BERN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6592
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 3424

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

BONN ALSO FOR US DEL CSCE SCIENTIFIC FORUM

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, SHUM, UR, SZ
SUBJ: BILATERAL APPROACHES ON SOVIET TRIALS

REF: BERN 3419, STATE 179532

1. CHARGE CALLED ON AMB HEGNER, CHIEF OF POLITICAL
DIVISION I (WHO HAD CONDUCTED CONVERSATION WITH SOVIET
AMB LAVROV REPORTED BERN 3419) AND MADE POINTS
CONTAINED STATE 179532.

2. HEGNER SAID THAT HE SAW NOTHING WITH WHICH HE COULD
DISAGREE IN THE POINTS WE ARE MAKING. HE SOMEWHAT
IRONICALLY EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH
THE SOVIETS WOULD BE EASIER THAN HIS WITH LAVROV. HEGNER
SAID THAT SOVIET ACTIONS BROUGHT INTO QUESTION ENTIRE
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CSCE PROCESS; WERE IN CONTRAST WITH WHAT SEEMED TO BE
A FRIENDLIER CONDUCT OF BILATERAL SOVIET RELATIONS AFTER
BELGRADE. HE STRESSED, IN THIS CONNECTION, THAT WITH-
OUT PARTICIPATION IN CSCE, SWISS WOULD PROBABLY NOT HAVE
CALLED IN LAVROV THE WAY THEY DID.

3. HEGNER DID NOT THINK THAT ANY GROUP ACTION SUCH

AS IN THE SCIENTIFIC FORUM WOULD BE USEFUL. HE REPORTED THAT IN DISCUSSING WITH SWEDISH AMB FORTHCOMING VISIT OF SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER IN SEPT, QUESTION OF MEETING OF "NEUTRAL" CSCE PARTICIPANTS WAS EXPLORED, BUT SWISS REACTED NEGATIVELY TO SUCH POSSIBILITY.

4. HEGNER REFERRED TO "TRANSITION PERIOD", WHICH MIGHT EXPLAIN SOVIET ATTITUDES ON DISSIDENTS. ALSO MENTIONED POSSIBILITY SOVIETS HAD CONCLUDED THAT SALT UNLIKELY TO BE SUCCESSFULLY NEGOTIATED IN FUTURE, AND LIKE THE CZECHS, THEY SHOULD GET RID OF THE DISSIDENTS AND GET THE PROBLEM OUT OF THE WAY.

5. HE ALSO REFERRED TO ISRAELI EFFORTS TO MOUNT A SERIES OF OFFICIAL PROTESTS. HEGNER SAID THIS WAS ENTIRELY UNDERSTANDABLE, BUT TENDED TO MAKE CONCERN OVER DISSIDENTS LESS UNIVERSAL. CROWLEY

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